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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Ales, et al.)	Examiner:	not yet assigned
)		
Serial No.: 10/518,337)	Art Unit:	not yet assigned
)		
Filed: December 15, 2004)	Attorney Docket No.:	22188/06938
)		
For: ULTRASONIC TESTING OF)		
FITTING ASSEMBLY)		

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A&B forms and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version of that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Appln. No. 10/518,337

Attorney Docket No. 22188/06938

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:

Complete English translations of foreign language documents are being submitted herewith, and therefore no concise explanation for such documents is required.

CERTIFICATION AND FEE PAYMENT INFORMATION

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. If this is not the case, the patent office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to **Deposit Account No. 030172**.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed thirty days or fewer from a Communication from a foreign patent office and Applicant submits the following Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this Communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant submits the following Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. If this is not the case, the patent office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to **Deposit Account No. 030172**.

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Appln. No. 10/518,337

Attorney Docket No. 22188/06938

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier). Accordingly, Applicant submits the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). The fee is being paid in the following manner:

A check is attached in the amount of \$ _____ as required under 37 § 1.17(p).

The patent office is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$ _____ and any related fee to **Deposit Account No. 030172**.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing of a final Office Action, Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but on or before the payment of the issue fee. Accordingly, Applicant submits the following Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) along with the fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

AND, the fee is being paid in the following manner:

A check is attached in the amount of \$ _____ as required under 37 § 1.17(p).

The patent office is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$ _____ and any related fee to **Deposit Account No. 030172**.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Mar 16, 2005

By: 

Mark R. Hull, Reg. No. 54,753

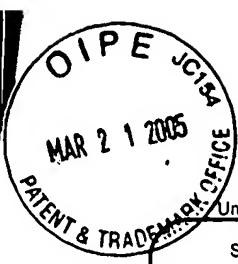
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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of 3

Application Number	10/518,337
Filing Date	December 15, 2004
First Named Inventor	Richard A. Ales
Art Unit	not yet assigned
Examiner Name	not yet assigned

Attorney Docket Number 22188/06938

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (<i>if known</i>)			
		US- 6,327,912	12/11/01	Basile et al.	
		US- 6,301,512	10/09/01	Motzer	
		US- 5,884,232	03/16/99	Buder	
		US- 5,719,785	02/17/98	Standifer	
		US- 5,535,136	07/09/96	Standifer	
		US- 5,499,540	03/19/96	Whaley et al.	
		US- 5,321,506	06/14/94	Sargent	
		US- Re. 34,063	09/15/92	Vincent et al.	
		US- 5,099,437	03/24/92	Weber	
		US- 4,791,839	12/20/88	Bickford et al.	
		US- 4,791,816	12/20/88	Grare et al.	
		US- 4,573,359	03/04/86	Carstensen	
		US- 4,233,723	11/18/80	Eshghy	
		US- 4,014,208	03/29/77	Moore et al.	
		US- 3,103,373	09/10/63	Lennon et al.	
		US- 3,325,192	06/13/67	Sullivan	
		US- 4,127,927	12/05/78	Hauk et al.	
		US- 4,356,402	12/28/82	McCombs et al.	
		US- 4,592,125	06/03/86	Skene	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (<i>if known</i>)				
		GB 264,762	01/27/27	Marcus Allen		
		GB 1361372	07/24/74	The Weatherhead		
		GB 2353342	02/21/01	Seymour et al.		
		WO 99/31499	06/24/99	Mecon Ltd.		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

2

of 3

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/518,337
Filing Date	December 15, 2004
First Named Inventor	Richard A. Ales
Art Unit	not yet assigned
Examiner Name	not yet assigned

Attorney Docket Number 22188/06938

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 4,614,120	09/30/86	Fradin et al.	
		US- 4,655,159	04/07/87	McMills	
		US- 4,700,576	10/20/87	Grare et al.	
		US- 4,962,579	10/16/90	Moyer et al.	
		US- 5,074,599	12/24/91	Wirbel et al.	
		US- 5,233,742	08/10/93	Gray et al.	
		US- 5,280,967	01/25/94	Varrin, Jr.	
		US- 6,279,242	08/28/01	Williams et al.	
		US- 6,345,845	02/12/02	Johnston	
		US- 6,438,814	08/27/02	Seymour et al.	
		US- 5,807,048	09/15/98	d'Agraves et al.	
		US- 6,360,609	03/26/02	Wooh	
		US- 3,218,845	11/23/65	Joy	
		US- 3,287,813	11/29/66	Lennon et al.	
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature		Date Considered
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Substitute for form 1449/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/518,337
				Filing Date	December 15, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Ales et al.
				Art Unit	not yet assigned
				Examiner Name	not yet assigned
Sheet	3	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	22188/06938

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			
		Article "Development of the Intelligent System for Monitoring the Fitting Condition of Inserted Tubes", Wenxian Yang, May 21, 2003.			
		Article "Correlation Analysis of Spatial Time Series Datasets: A Filter-and-Refine Approach", Pusheng Zhang et al.,			
		Article "Complex Wavelet Analysis of Ultrasonic Signals", Wen-xian Yang et al.			
		International Search Report of PCT/US03/18812.			
		International Search Report of PCT/US03/19133.			
		Article "Investigation of Signal Characteristics Using the Continuous Wavelet Transform", John Sadowsky, pgs. 258-269, Johns Hopkins APL Technical Digest, Vol. 17, No. 3, 1996			
		Article "Ultraschallprufung Grundlagen und industrielle Anwendungen", Deutsch V. et al. pgs 55-73, 1997, XP002279058 Berlin Heidelberg New York.			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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